

the Seizure Memo and to obtain the signatures of the witnesses present during the seizure. The SHO and other senior police officers make periodic verification of the property kept in the Malkhana.

(d) Section 100 Cr. PC provides that it is essential for the police officer to prepare a list at the time of seizure/recovery in the presence of two or more independent witnesses and such lists are also signed by these witnesses. Similar list is prepared in respect of items/cash deposited by any person with the police. Proper receipt is given as provided in the above section.

Criminal Cases Against VIPs

5098. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Home Secretary conducted any enquiry into the alleged criminal charges made against the former Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Taslimuddin);

(b) If so, the outcome of the enquiry made; and

(c) the action taken or proposed to be taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA): (a) to (c) The Union Home Secretary had sought from the State Government of Bihar details of criminal cases in which Shri Taslimuddin was allegedly involved. Investigation into criminal cases is the responsibility of the Police.

Constitutional Breakdown in Bihar

5099. SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES:
SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ:
SHRI NITISH KUMAR:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Patna High Court in a judgement delivered on August 7, 1996 stated that there has been a constitutional breakdown in Bihar and that Article 356 of the Constitution should be invoked to deal with the situation; and

(b) if so, the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA): (a) and (b) In deciding a writ petition challenging the dissolution of a Municipality in Bihar, the Patna High Court has made, inter alia, the following observation:

"In the instant case there has been willful flouting of the orders of the Court by the State Government threatening one of the basic pillars of our Constitutional democracy amounting to a breaking

down of the Constitutional machinery in the State calling for immediate remedial measure."

There is no proposal to invoke the provisions of article 356 of the Constitution in the instant case.

[Translation]

Development of Surat Railway Station

5100. SHRI CHHITUBHAI GAMIT: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any programme has been chalked out for the development of Surat station of the Western Railway in view of the insufficient facilities available at this station;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the quantum of amount provided for the development of Surat station;

(d) the time by which the development work of the said station would be commenced; and

(e) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to expedite the work?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) to (e) Surat station has already been provided with amenities commensurate with the volume of traffic handled. To further augment the existing facilities, works of extension of foot-over-bridge and extension of cover over platforms have been taken up at a cost of Rs. 50 lakh and are targeted for completion by December, 1997. A work for the provision of a new booking office on the East Side has also been sanctioned in 1996-97, at a cost of Rs. 12 lakh and shall be taken up after completion of the requisite formalities.

[English]

Case Against a Canadian National

5101. SHRI MRUTYUNJAYA NAYAK: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a criminal case against a Canadian National having Canadian Passport was registered by the Badarpur Police Station on May 30, 1996;

(b) if so, whether Delhi police has not been able to locate his whereabouts;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the SHO, Badarpur Police Station, New Delhi with the approval of his Asst. Commissioner of Police, requested the Foreigners Regional Registration Office (FRRO) within three weeks from the date of

registration of FIR to open a LOC (Look Out for Culprit) to ensure that the accused does not leave India;

(e) if so, the date in which the LOC was made operational;

(f) whether the accused went Canada even after the LOC being made operational;

(g) if so, the reasons for the security lapse; and

(h) the steps proposed to be taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. A criminal case was registered against a Canadian national on 30.5.1996 at the Badarpur Police Station on receipt of a complaint. The complainant did not, however, indicate the address of the accused. Though the police tried to trace the accused at likely hideouts, he could not be located. As it turned out subsequently, the accused had already left the country on 28.5.1996 i.e. before the registration of the case.

(d) and (e) Yes, Sir. The Deputy Commissioner of Police (South) had made such a request on 31.5.1996 on the basis of which the Foreigners Regional Registration Office opened the LOC on 1.6.1996.

(f) to (h) The accused had left the country even before the complaint against him was registered at the Badarpur Police Station. There was, therefore, no security lapse as such.

Train from Secunderabad to Belapur

5102. SHRI YELLAIAH NANDI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is only one weekly train from Secunderabad to Belapur due to which thousands of pilgrims who wish to visit Shirdi from Hyderabad/ Secunderabad are facing hardships;

(b) if so, whether the Government have received any representation for the extension of Railway line upto Shirdi via Belapur and introduction of more trains on the said route; and

(c) if so, the reaction of the Government thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) The weekly 7061/7062 Secunderabad-Belapur Express, leaving Secunderabad on Saturdays and Belapur on Sundays, caters by and large to the weekend pilgrims traffic between Secunderabad/Hyderabad and Shirdi.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Pulse Production

5103. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have called for a brown revolution to augment the production of pulses;

(b) if so, whether he has written a letter to all the Chief Ministers and Heads of the Union Territories and suggested certain measures in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the assistance proposed to be provided by the Centre to the State Governments to achieve the goal?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA): (a) to (d) Union Minister of Agriculture has written a letter to the Chief Ministers of all the States and Heads of the Union Territories on 15th July, 1996 and have requested them to formulate time bound programme for increasing the production of pulses. No proposal has been received so far in this regard.

Stamp Duty Scam

5104. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Rs. 35.59 crores stamp duty scam was unearthed in Uttar Pradesh during the month of July;

(b) if so, whether the Union Government has ascertained the facts about the stamp duty scam;

(c) whether CBI has been entrusted to enquire into the scam; and

(d) if so, the time by which the inquiry is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A criminal case against Shri R.P. Gupta, retired Sub-Registrar, has been registered in Police Station Kotwali Kanpur, under sections 409/420/477A/199/120-IPC, section 27 of the Stamp Act and section 13 of the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. However, the matter has been referred to "Aarthik Apradh Anusandhan Sangathan", Uttar Pradesh.

STATEMENT CORRECTING REPLY TO UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3108 DATED 27.8.96 REGARDING DEVELOPMENTAL PROJECTS IN FOREST AREA

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD): I invite attention to the English and